

REMARKS

Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration of the subject application as amended. In response to the Office Action mailed 10/19/05, Applicant is filing this amendment. Claims 1-20 are pending.

In the Office Action mailed 10/19/05, the Examiner has objected to the disclosure for various informalities. Applicant thanks the Examiner for the suggested changes to correct the informalities. Accordingly, Applicant has made those changes and requests the Examiner to withdraw the objection related to the disclosure.

The Examiner has objected to claims 5, 12, 19 and 20 for informalities. Again Applicant has made the suggested changes. Furthermore, the last two claims, which were misnumbered, have now been corrected to read as claims 19 and 20. Accordingly, Applicant requests the Examiner to withdraw the objections pertaining to these claims.

Furthermore, the Examiner has rejected claims 1-20 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Woo et al. (U.S. Patent 6,445,039; Woo) in view of Kluge et al. (U.S. Patent Application Pub. 2003/0183403; Kluge). In reply, Applicant has amended the independent claims to recite that the inductors provide for ESD protection between analog and digital domains by having the inductors coupled across the analog ground and digital ground connections (or alternatively, across the analog power source and digital power source connections, etc.).

Woo does not specifically teach the use of inductors as noted by the Examiner. Although Kluge teaches the use of an inductor across connections, the inductor of Kluge is placed across an input terminal and ground. In the claimed embodiments of the invention for the subject application, the inductors are placed across ground (or power source) terminals to provide for ESD protection between analog and digital domains. This aspect of the inductors is not disclosed in Kluge and Woo. Neither is it obvious since the distinction of ESD protection of separate digital and analog domains is not disclosed in the cited references.

Accordingly, Applicant respectfully requests the Examiner to withdraw the 35 U.S.C. §103(a) rejection and allow pending claims 1-20, as amended.

Furthermore, in order to respond to the outstanding office action, Applicant is also submitting a petition for one-month extension of time under a separate cover.

If there are any fee shortages related to this response, please charge such fee shortages to Deposit Account No. 50-2126.

Respectfully submitted,

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